

Appl. No. : 09/938,428
Filed : August 23, 2001

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the Brief Description of the Drawings beginning on page 4 line 19 through page 5 line 18 as follows:

Figure 1A illustrates a side view of the trephine, punch or coring tool of the current invention with the cutter fully retracted.

Figure 1B illustrates a side view of the trephine, punch or coring tool of the current invention with the cutter fully advanced against the anvil.

Figure 2 illustrates the trephine, punch or coring tool applied to the apex of the ventricle of the heart prior to advancing the cutting blade.

Figure 3 illustrates the trephine, punch or coring tool after the blade has been advanced through the apex of the ventricular wall of the heart.

Figure 4 illustrates the ventricular wall after removal of the trephine, punch or coring tool and the excised tissue.

Figure 5A illustrates another embodiment of a side view of the trephine, punch or coring tool with the anvil fully advanced.

Figure 5B illustrates a side view of the trephine, punch or coring tool with the anvil fully retracted against the cutter.

Figure 6A illustrates a longitudinal cross-sectional view of the trephine, punch or coring tool comprising a jackscrew to replace the function of the spring.

Figure 6B illustrates a side view of the trephine, punch or coring tool comprising the jackscrew, wherein the cutter has been advanced against the anvil.

Figure 7A illustrates a side view of the trephine, punch or coring tool comprising a hydraulic cylinder to replace the function of the spring.

Figure 7B illustrates a side view of the trephine, punch or coring tool comprising the hydraulic cylinder, wherein the cutter has been advanced against the anvil.

Appl. No. : 9/938,428
Filed : August 23, 2001

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 10 line 1 as follows:

C2 "Alternatively, as illustrated in Figures 6A and 6B, the handle 20 may be rotated by a motor or gear motor 110 which is electrically powered by a battery disposed either external to or internal to the punch 10. External battery power is delivered to the motor 110 through a cable with a plurality of conductors. On and off operation of the motor 110 is controlled through a switch on the punch knob 24 or the handle 20, by a foot switch, or by a sound activated switch."

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 11 line 3 as follows:

C3 "In another embodiment, as illustrated in Figures 6A and 6B, the function of the spring 2022 is replaced by a threaded jackscrew assembly 104. The shaft 14 is threaded and engages mating threads on the handle 20. By rotating the handle 20, the cutter 12 is rotated and simultaneously advanced proximally or distally in a positive displacement fashion. Figure 6A shows the coring tool 10 with the cutter 12 retracted away from the anvil 16. Figure 6B shows the coring tool 10 with the cutter 12 advanced against the anvil 16."

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 11 line 9 as follows:

C4 "In yet another embodiment, as illustrated in Figures 7A and 7B, the function of the spring 2022 is replaced by a hydraulic cylinder 106 and hydraulic pressure source 108 with a valve or switch to control pressure into said cylinder 106. Figure 7A shows the coring tool 10 with the cutter 12 retracted away from the anvil 16. Figure 7B shows the coring tool 10 with the cutter 12 advanced against the anvil 16."

Appl. No. : 09/938,428
Filed : August 23, 2001

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 12 line 4 as follows:

"The tapered tip 18 is affixed to the distal end of the shaft 14 in a stationary manner. Fixation of the tip 18 to the shaft 14 is accomplished by over-molding, a setscrew or by internal threads on the trocar or tapered tip 18 engaging male threads on the shaft 14. The trocar or tapered tip 18 has a conical configuration and allows penetration of the hollow organ or vessel by the entire tip 18 anvil 16 assembly following an initial incision with a sharp surgical instrument. The distal end of the trocar 18 may be either sharp or rounded. Use of the sharp end on the trocar 18 permits use of the coring tool 10 without first making a separate surgical incision in the tissue. Longitudinal edges or ridges 102 are optionally disposed on the conical surface of trocar or tip 18 to enhance tissue penetration. Alternatively, the tip 18 may be oscillated or vibrated with an electrical actuator or motor to facilitate penetration into the tissue. The oscillation is useful for either blunt dissection or sharp dissection of the tissue."